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OCTOBER 1976

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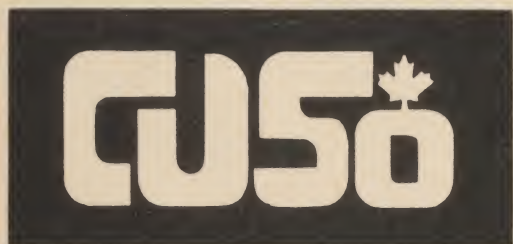
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THE macdonald Journal

OCTOBER 1976

Macdonald Journal
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In This Issue

Cover: Gordon Beaulieu, Cattle Herdsman on the Macdonald College Farm, checks the milking apparatus. For an article on mastitis see page 3.

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Journal Jottings

I should be one of the last to bemoan what appears to be the decline of the art of letter writing, for I am probably guiltier than most in finding excuses for writing that letter to a friend "tomorrow." Postcards while on holidays — a Christmas letter, call long distance — all much easier, much faster but really much less satisfactory. A few weeks ago we received a letter addressed to the Extension Department, c/o of Joan Habel. Joan read the letter and took it home to share with her family. Their reaction was such that she phoned me that evening suggesting we might publish it. After I read it the next morning, I was on the phone asking for permission to publish,

which, I am pleased to say, was given. The letter is a gem, but then anyone who has "read" Walker Riley either in the Journal when he was associated with Macdonald College or in one of the papers in which his popular column, "Country Notebook" appeared would expect no less. Thank you, Walker, for writing — I'm certain our readers will appreciate our sharing your letter with them.

The articles on "Canfarm" and "Mastitis . . . the Continuing Problem" are filled with good, sound information and, as usual, the variety of features in Mac Reports makes for interesting reading. I think there is something in this issue for everyone;

whether you agree or not, why not drop us a line? Your thoughts and suggestions can help us to plan future issues and, as you will now realize, we do enjoyng receiving mail.

Hazel M. Clarke

It hasn't really been that long ago that most farmers took pride in being able to say that theirs was one of the few remaining occupations in which a man could be his own boss, answer only to himself, and in general control his own destiny. This feeling of intense independence has characterized North American Agriculture since its infancy. It has been one of the main calling cards that has attracted and kept farm youth on the land.

But now many farmers are beginning to suspect, and others have actually realized, that this idea that a farmer has complete control over the destiny of land may be only so much wishful thinking. Through a whole series of court decisions, new regulations, ordinances, and condemnation proceedings, landowners have been getting the message that the public's need comes first and takes precedence over your rights as an individual landowner.

Much of this change in public sentiment is the result of the environmental movement that has taken place over the last 10 years. The in-depth coverage of these environmental problems in newspapers, magazines, radio, and television apparently had its effect in convincing people that our natural resources are vital and worth protecting. Now the urban public seems to feel that

resources such as farmland, clean air, rivers, lakes, scenery, and food supplies are vital to everyone, actually belong to everyone, and need to be protected by everyone.

As a result, farmers and landowners now more than ever are having to cope with and comply with a whole range of new regulation and controls. These have included new regulations governing the use or application of insecticides and the disposal of animal wastes. Other regulations determine such things as production quotas, quota prices, marketing orders, and check-off procedures. We may see in the future new laws regulating drainage and the purchase and allocation of ground and surface water for irrigation. Already, one state in the U.S. has the power to issue fines or jail sentences to farmers who allow excessive soil erosion losses on their farms. Many governmental units now have adopted varying land use regulations that affect the farmer's right to use and develop his land. In the future I suspect we will see a host of consumer demands that will affect the type of food product the farmers produce.

To be sure, most of these new regulations are in the best interests of the farmer and con-

sumer. But many being discussed may not be as generous to farmers as in the past.

What is a farmer to do in the face of impending or threatening legislation? It is important for us to realize that these are political decisions made in the political arena by persons perhaps more in tune to urban voters' interests than to farmers' interests. One important thing a farmer can do is to make sure his voice gets heard by the persons formulating these future regulations. Unfortunately, so often a single voice just doesn't reach these people as well as a few hundred or thousand. It is important, therefore, that farmers work through their local and provincial farm organizations, syndicates, marketing boards, co-ops, breed associations, clubs, and other community groups to make their wishes known. Sure, it takes a little more time and effort to join and get involved, but unless you do, your concerns may very well go unheard. If you don't speak up through your farm groups, someone else will, and they are sure to be a lot less informed about farmers' needs than you are.

Gordon Bachman

MASTITIS...

...THE CONTINUING PROBLEM

by Dr. B. R. Downey
Veterinarian
Department of Animal Science

Artwork by Pirjo Peirce

Mastitis may be defined as an inflammation of the milk-secreting tissues of a cow's udder. Although recognized for many years, the disease has yet to be conquered despite the enormous amount of research carried out in pursuit of solutions to the problem. Primarily caused by pathogenic bacteria, the occurrence of mastitis is facilitated by management factors which favour the spread of these organisms and weaken the natural resistance of the teat orifice to bacterial invasion. In other words, mastitis is dependent on the interaction between three biosystems: the host (cow), the infectious agents and the environment in which both exist and grow (Fig. 1). The comparatively small success achieved in mastitis control appears to be due to the fact that scientific interest has been more concerned with the infectious agents than with the conditions of infection.

The economic loss due to acute forms of the disease, where the cow becomes sick, is easily measurable. Chronic mastitis is more subtle, often unnoticed, but it probably accounts for the greater percentage of dollar loss due to the long-term lowering of potential milk production.

Where Do Mastitis-Producing Organisms Originate?

Staphylococcus aureus and various *Streptococci* are the

bacteria responsible for over 90 per cent of all mastitis infections. The main reservoirs of *Staphylococcus aureus* are infected udders and teats, and these bacteria readily colonize teat canals, especially if a lesion is at or near the teat end. In the absence of effective hygiene, Staphylococcal organisms are transmitted from cow to cow, principally during milking. *Streptococcus agalactiae*, which is a principal cause of chronic mastitis along with *S. aureus*, is found only in infected udders. As a consequence, contamination with infected milk results in spread of the organism. Other Streptococcal species originate from such places as the mouth and upper respiratory tract and may be a major cause of infections prior to calving and during the dry period.



Coliforms are the most important secondary pathogens in most herds. *Escherichia coli* and *Klebsiella pneumoniae* are included in this group; they do not normally inhabit the udder of the animal but live in the environment, particularly in manure, dirty yards, and

bedding that favours their growth. These organisms usually produce acute septic mastitis, and recently-calved high-producing cows are the best candidates for this disease.

Outside sources of these and other less important organisms include new additions to the herd, visitors, birds, flies, and direct contact with neighbouring animals.

How Can Their Numbers Be Reduced?

It is not completely understood how bacteria get into the udder, but there is little doubt that the incidence of infection is a function of the number of organisms on the teat end. In the absence of a teat dip, practically all teat lesions become infected and act as a reservoir for mastitis pathogens. Since the streak canal of the teat is the portal through which the organisms gain entry to the udder, care and cleanliness of this area is the basis for all mastitis control. To achieve this objective, mastitis causing organisms must be prevented from living on the skin of the udder and in the immediate environment. During milking, bacteria are usually spread from an infected udder to a non-infected one, and milker's hands, udder cloths and sponges, and teat cup liners are frequent means of spread. As a general principle, infected cows should always be milked last. Transmission that occurs between milkings is more likely to result from contaminated bedding. As a rule, warmth and moisture favour bacterial growth, and therefore, bedding which effectively

soaks up moisture may also provide a good medium in which mastitis pathogens are able to thrive. Consequently, to minimize bacterial numbers, prevent their build-up by keeping the udder and its environment clean and dry and kill the organisms that are there by teat dipping regularly.

What Factors Predispose to Mastitis?

Mastitis pathogens do not infect all cows equally regardless of the numbers of organisms present. Some cows may be more susceptible to the disease than others for anatomical (large, pendulous udder) or pathological (prior inflammation due to injury) reasons. Udders may be less resistant or immune to new strains of bacteria, as introduced by new additions to the herd, than to organisms to which they have been exposed for some time. In addition, stall size or design may contribute to "stepped on" teats and faulty milking machine function may damage teat ends. As illustrated in Fig. 1, contamination of the cow and her environment with infectious organisms, the ease of transmission of these agents within the environment, and stresses placed on the cow by the environment make up the mastitis risk present in any herd.

What Are Somatic Cell Counts?

Clinical mastitis is relatively easy to detect by observing changes in the udder such as swelling and changes in the milk such as clots or flakes. The more common sub-clinical or hidden mastitis presents a problem of diagnosis, and as the determination of the presence of bacteria in milk requires a proper laboratory (expensive

and time consuming), indirect tests have been developed as a measure of mastitis. The majority of these tests are based on milk somatic cell numbers (leucocytes and epithelial cells), the leucocyte portion of which increases in the presence of udder inflammation. The California Mastitis Test (CMT) is the most popular as it lends itself to "on-farm" use, is rapid, and is easy to interpret. The addition of a reagent to an equal volume of milk produces a gel formation (CMT reaction) which can be correlated with somatic cell numbers. If cell count is high, milk quality is reduced as is total production from the quarters involved (Table 1). In some areas of the world, somatic cell counting service is available through milk testing programs such

as Dairy Herd Improvement (DHI) in Wisconsin and the Milk Marketing Board in England. With the aid of electronic cell counters (MMB uses the Coulter Counter), large numbers of samples can be processed in an effort to monitor individual herd status with regard to mastitis. At Macdonald, a new instrument called the Fossomatic was purchased recently from Foss Electric, Denmark, and it is capable of accurately measuring the somatic cell count in 180 milk samples per hour. After initial experimentation, it is hoped that a cell counting service using the Fossomatic will be available to Quebec farmers as part of the Dairy Herd Analysis Service.

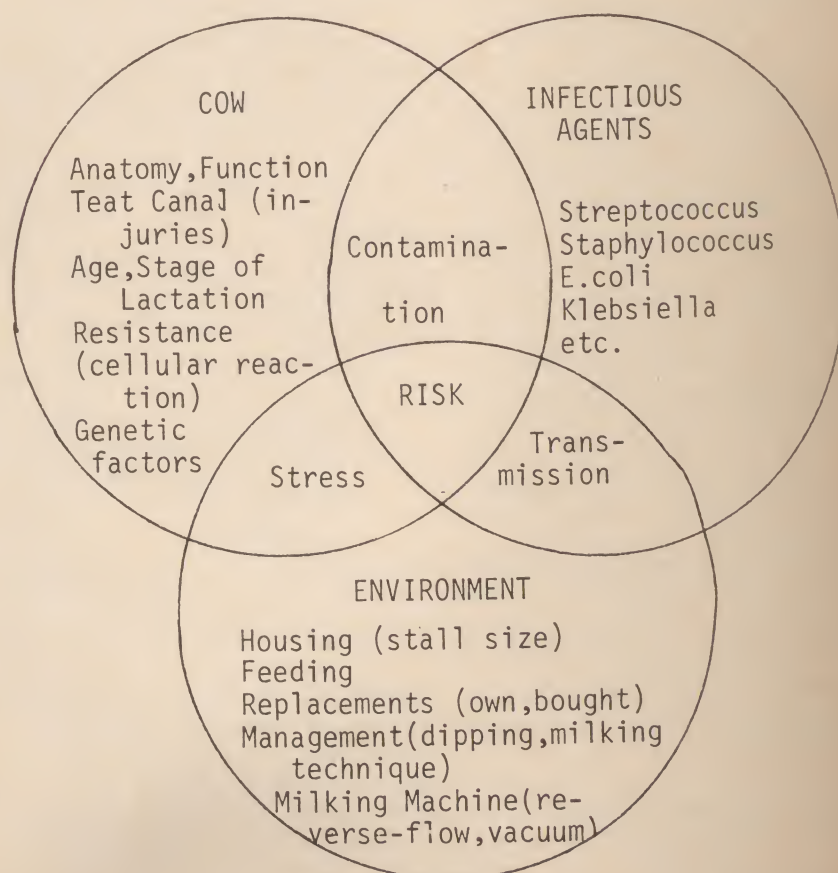


Fig. 1. Interactions between cow, infectious agents and environment which contribute to the mastitis complex.

Table 1. Production loss from quarters secreting high levels of somatic cells

California Mastitis Test score	Somatic cell count/ml	Per cent production loss	Pounds milk lost per day per quarter
trace	150,000 to 500,000	10	1
1	500,000 to 1,000,000	20	2
2	1,000,000 to 5,000,000	32	3.2
3	above 5,000,000	45	4.5

Table 2. The effect of infection at different times on relative milk yield at calving

Infection status of quarters		Relative yield	% Yield depression
Drying off	Calving		
negative	negative	100.0	—
infected	negative	88.7	11.3
infected	infected	67.8	32.2
negative	infected	63.4	36.6

Should Dry Cows Be Treated?

In spite of preventative measures, most farmers must live with some mastitis, particularly the sub-clinical form. To reduce this loss, treatment can be carried out and recently dry cow therapy has been shown to be the most efficient and economic way of doing this. If problem cows are identified and selectively treated at "drying off", less antibiotic is required, no milk needs to be discarded and, in a dry quarter, the treatment has the opportunity to kill the offending organisms efficiently. Since new infections do occur during the dry period, many workers suggest that all cows should be treated at "drying off". Recent studies in Michigan have shown that the milk loss subsequent to infections acquired during the dry period is similar (approximately 35 per cent) to the depression in yields

from infections carried through the dry period (Table 2).

In planning a dry cow therapy program, one should remember that the various anti-bacterial drugs differ in their effectiveness against a particular organism and most are not very effective at all against the coliform group of bacteria. Consequently, it is wise to assess your overall mastitis situation in consultation with your veterinarian before deciding on a routine treatment regimen.

When All Else Fails, What Next?

After your mastitis control program of teat dipping, monitoring somatic cell counts, treating dry cows, and observing proper milking and management technique is underway, you may still need to treat an occasional outbreak of mastitis. This also should be done after consultation

with your veterinarian or, at least, treatment should be based on previous experience and data collected in your own herd, i.e., which organism is most common and what treatment is likely to be most effective?

Vaccination against mastitis is a good idea in theory but has proven rather ineffective in practice. This is probably due to the fact that strains of bacteria vary geographically and even from farm to farm; hence, it is impossible to acquire specific immunity when the bacterial antigens in the vaccine preparation are quite different from those found on a particular farm.

The judicious culling of chronic mastitic cows and avoiding the addition of mature cows as replacements will also aid in the prevention of major mastitis problems.

Rules For Good Milking Technique

The National Mastitis Council has endorsed the following 10 rules for good milking technique which were prepared by Dr. J.H. Nicolai, Jr., University of Kentucky, and Dr. W.N. Philpot, Louisiana State University. I have enlarged upon them but have not changed them in principle.



1. Wash the udder with a warm, sanitizing solution and dry with

a single service paper towel. It is important that the udder be cleaned properly; a poor job may be worse than none at all. Also, udder clothes and sponges can do more harm than good.

2. Remove 2 or 3 streams of foremilk from each quarter and examine for abnormalities. A strip cup will facilitate this procedure.



6. Dip the teats in a teat dip proved to be safe and effective immediately after the teat cups are removed. There are substantial differences between teat dips; homemade preparations should be avoided.

It is generally accepted that teat cups should also be dipped or rinsed before being placed on the next cow. Care should be taken to ensure that your method is doing the job you think it is. Circulating water through the cluster at 185°F for at least 5 seconds has proven to be the most effective means of preventing transfer of pathogens on liners.

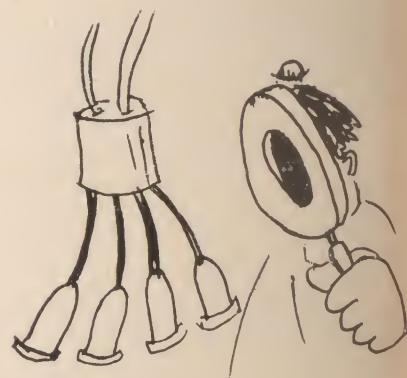
7. Treat all clinical cases and
8. Treat cows at drying off.

As mentioned earlier, such programs should first be discussed with your veterinarian.

9. Conduct a cowside screening test such as the California Mastitis Test at monthly intervals and record results for future reference. This service may soon be available through DHAS.



3. Attach the teat cups approximately 1 minute after starting udder preparation — or when the teats are full of milk. Optimum milk let-down occurs within this period of time.
4. Adjust the teat cups during milking as necessary to insure that the quarters milk out properly.
5. Start machine stripping when milk flow slows to a minimum (usually 3 to 4 minutes). Machine strip quickly. Do not overmilk!



10. Have the entire milking system analyzed twice a year by a qualified milking machine service man.



CANFARM

by Marcel Couture
Assistant Director
Diploma Program

A strong, viable agricultural industry depends on good management information. The farmer needs it in order to run his business, and the agricultural agency needs it in order to maintain intelligent, sensitive policies in support of the farmer. Providing such information is the function of Canfarm.

Canfarm is a cooperative effort set up by provincial departments of agriculture, the Federal Department of Agriculture, the Farm Credit Corporation and agricultural universities across the country to provide management information to farmers and farm agencies. Its farm records service organizes farm transactions into a comprehensive set of financial reports.

Several of these reports are financial, in the strict sense of the word. Information on equity, that is, the value of the farm property, is drawn together in the Canfarm Balance Sheet. Information on profitability — the income the farmer is making from his business — is provided in the Income Statement. Information on solvency — the farmer's ability to pay his bills — is provided in the Cash Flow Statement. Supporting information is provided by additional reports that "plug in" to those named above.

The Canfarm Records Service also provides operating information. This is embodied in the Farm Operating Statement, which shows farm income and expenses, along with physical information such as number of pounds of milk sold, number of heads purchased, etc., and bank and credit account reports, which show activities in these areas. Unlike the Balance Sheet and Income Statement, which are usually yearly reports, the operating reports are issued on a monthly basis. (If some conditions are met, the Balance Sheet and

Income Statement can also be produced monthly.)

The service also provides tax reports, for use in tax management, as well as filing the tax return. For example, the Income for Tax Purposes Report is an income statement that can be filed along with the tax return. The Income for Tax Management Report is issued **during** the year, so that the farmer can forecast his year-end taxable income, and make adjustments to his inventories and capital cost allowance.

Some 3,500 Quebec farmers are now using the Canfarm Records Service. For almost all of them, things started with a Canfarm agent — he may have been the local agronomer, a Farm Credit Corporation credit advisor, a bank manager, or a chartered accountant. The agent introduced him to the service and helped him in that first difficult year of recording transactions and interpreting reports — the farmer has to reach a certain threshold of sophistication before he can make the service really work for him. Once the farmer is used to the system, he can record his transactions, usually once a month, and mail them to the Canfarm central office at Guelph, Ontario. There, his transactions are processed by computer and his reports prepared. They are then mailed back to him and his agent.

The Canfarm Records Service has a number of advantages. It has been developed to correspond with generally-accepted accounting principles, so that accountants can readily interpret its reports and give advice. Accountants may also act as agents for the service.

The service has also been designed to be of real use for tax matters. It provides a clear "information trail" leading from farm transactions to detailed and summary reports. If the Department of National Revenue does an audit, the farmer can reconstruct each

figure on his tax report out of his farm transactions.

All information provided by the farmer is kept confidential. With respect to the tax department, the farmer's information is as private with Canfarm as it is in an accountant's files.

Flexibility is another feature of the service. The farmer can choose the reports he wants, ranging from tax reports only to a full range of management information reports such as detailed enterprise analysis, etc.

Farm Planning Aids

In addition to the farm records service, Canfarm maintains a series of farm planning services, many of which can be used by remote computer terminal as well as mail. They are as follows:

The Feed Formulation Service

This service is of particular value to the farmer who is feeding one complete diet to his livestock, for example, the feedlot operator. But it is also of value to the farmer who has several rations to consider. A dairy farmer can have a grain mix formulated, which can be fed in varying amounts, in combination with roughages, to dry and lactating cows, and growing heifers. Similarly, a hog producer can have a grain mix formulated, to be fed in varying amounts to his sows, growing hogs, and finishing hogs.

To use the service, you must fill out a form containing:

- Information on the nutrient requirements of your livestock: this can be obtained from the Feed Formulation Standard Data, from your agronomer, or from a livestock publication;
- Information on the costs, quantities, and nutrient contents of your feeds. The information on nutrient contents can be obtained from the Feed Formulation Standard Data, from

a livestock publication or, best of all, from tests run by your feed-testing laboratory.

The Feed Formulation Program will serve you better than a ration that has been pre-formulated using average values, since it will be based on your own livestock, prices and feed information. And it is much simpler and more accurate than doing calculations by hand. In fact, the service enables you to really keep on top of your feeding situation. It also permits you to obtain a new least-cost ration whenever feedstuffs change in price or nutrient content.

The Machinery Replacement Service

The Machinery Replacement Service provides a cost analysis that indicates the best time to trade in an old machine for a new one.

When should you trade in an old machine for a new one? From the cost point-of-view, there is a fairly simple answer: you should trade it in when the cost per year for the old machine exceeds the cost for the new one. But calculating such costs is complicated. Repair costs, depreciation, trade-in values, fuel costs, and interest rates all have an effect on them. Therefore, Canfarm has developed the Machinery Replacement Service, which uses the computer to make detailed cost comparisons between the old and new machines.

Machinery costs run in a definite pattern. When a machine is new, the cost per year is high, due mainly to depreciation. In its middle years, the cost falls to a relatively low level. But as the machine ages, repair costs rise, until ultimately the cost per year rises above that of a new machine. The Machinery Replacement Service puts figures into this cost pattern. It provides detailed forecasts of costs per

year, for the old and new machines, for the periods you expect to keep them. It also provides cost per acre, per mile, per hour, per bale, etc., for the same periods.

The program is fairly simple and concise, requiring you to complete a single page of information. The reports you will get in return will permit you to make a better decision, based on more precise and accurate calculations of your machinery costs.

To get more information on the various other Farm Planning Services offered by Canfarm, please talk to your Farm Management specialist.

Need for Data

We have seen how the Canfarm services could be used by farmers to provide them with much needed information but Canfarm has another great role to play in Canadian agriculture and that is in the field of providing data for research and policy making.

The data bank aspect of Canfarm has interested agriculture departments and universities from the beginning.

Every government program related to agriculture must be based on the right kind of information — a stabilization program, for instance, must know just what is going on in the way of farm production, or it becomes involved in the same nightmare seesaw of increasing and decreasing supply, and rising and falling prices that it is attempting to end. Government programs must be monitored carefully to make sure that they are really doing what they are supposed to be doing, and not having unfortunate side-effects.

When some sector of Canadian agriculture becomes distressed, the first question that is often asked is: can the government help and, if so, how? To answer

this question, researchers and policy-makers need the right kind of agricultural information. Agricultural information has been gained in various ways in the past. Sometimes questionnaires have been mailed out to the farmer. At other times interviewers have been sent from door to door. Both methods have drawbacks. The methods of the future may be to have a continuing "pipeline" of information.

Such a pipeline can supplement Statistics Canada, the Quebec Ministry of Agriculture, and other information-gathering agencies. It can show, for instance, how much milk Quebec farmers are producing and how much money they are receiving for it, thus alerting the Federation of Quebec Milk Producers some crucial months in advance of any surplus or shortage.

Canfarm's data bank is currently under development and when it is in full operation it is hoped that it will do much toward fine-tuning government programs to farmers' needs and providing to the researchers useful data from the "Real World" to be used in their research, etc.

Canfarm has been in operation since 1969, when the first record service was offered to 550 farmers. There are at present over 12,000 Canadian farmers using the service which costs \$15.00 per year. It has been pioneering and, as is usual in pioneering, it has had to grapple with various problems. In the future, I believe it can perform two important functions in Canadian agriculture. On one hand, it can increase the productiveness of Canadian farming by supporting the strong, independent farmer on whom the whole system is based. On the other hand, it can provide information so that farm agencies can work sensitively and intelligently to aid the farmer.

Dear People

"I almost caught a corn thief last Wednesday. Raccoons and blackbirds I can forgive for raiding our sweet corn patch, but humans, never. I spend time patrolling, silently, Indian fashion, between the corn rows with only the stars for light, trying to catch the ghost-like raiders — time out of all proportion to the value of the few cobs which vanish from the very best rows. This year, some of the raids have been in broad daylight.

"The corn patch is a little farther from the house this year, up by the road fence. There is a dip in the road near the old elm tree where a car can stop, and you just can't see it from the house. That is where the fence is down, too, and the grass is beaten into a path leading right into the corn. Obviously that path had been made by human feet, but not once had I spotted the owners of the feet, day or night.

"I really was waiting for blackbirds last Wednesday afternoon, sitting under the old elm tree, shotgun across my knees. In desperation at the damage being done — the little darlings have taught themselves to perch on the corn ear, tear it apart at the top and peck down into the sweetest kernels — I had that morning bought a box of shotgun shells and had fired three or four shoulder-bruising volleys in the general direction of the flock.

"Of course, I hit nothing but corn tassels, but they did chatter their annoyance at the noise and flew off to the dead tamaracks in the swamp to await my departure.

"The occasional car went by on the road, the dust swirling up and filtering through the bushes which hid me from view. But one car caught my attention when it slowed down, almost stopped by the gap in the fence, and kept on going. Aah, raiders, I thought. For once I am in the right place at the right time. I will give them four minutes to go up to Harry's gate, turn around and come back. And as I pulled myself back into the bushes, I thought out just how I would handle the situation for the most satisfaction. I would stay hidden until they had come through the gap. I would listen while they whispered that raiding Riley's corn patch was a real cinch, and then when they reappeared from the corn rows, garbage bags full of corn, I would just happen to be standing at the gap. Then I would explain, very quietly and politely, how much the seed cost and the fertilizer to grow the corn, and the herbicide, and the new tire for the tractor. Then I would thank them, kindly, for picking my afternoon's corn orders for me and bid them goodbye. No doubt, they would notice I was carrying a shotgun.

"Sure enough, right on schedule, the car did come back, slowed down, and stopped right at the gap. I could just make out the glint of chrome through the leaves. The door opened and closed, and I could hear footsteps on the gravel. They came toward the gap, stopped, and then went back to the car. "Forgot his sack," I thought. Then back to the fence and stopped again. Then a softly shouted, "Hello" and silence. Humm, smart idea, checking to see if we are in the corn field. I hoped I really was out of sight. I found myself trembling, just a little.

"Then the footsteps returned to the car, and a voice, slightly raised, clearly an older man's, said "Martha, I can't make anyone hear. This isn't their gate. We must have passed it."

"What else could I do but stay hidden with my shotgun, now feeling like a cannon, while the little old couple got back into their car, drove slowly back down the road, turned in our lane and up to the house, bought their six cobs of corn (as I learned later) and drove away again.

"Clearly the stars have ordained that Libras are not destined to be detectives."

Sincerely,
Walker

(See Journal Jottings)

Macdonald Reports

by Joan Habel

FACULTY COMINGS AND GOINGS

Appointments

We feel very privileged to have several new faculty members, whose contributions through teaching, research, and extension work should add new dimension to Macdonald College.

PETER APPLETON, Department of Agricultural Economics, will teach economics courses to degree and diploma students. He has recently lived in Ottawa, where he worked in his own consulting firm and for the Science Council of Canada and the Agricultural Economics Research Council. Mr. Appleton has his M. Sc. from the University of Alberta, along with a B.A. from Carleton and a B.Sc. from Colorado State University.

BRUCE COULMAN comes to his first teaching position with a M.Sc., University of Saskatchewan, and his Ph.D., University of Manitoba. Dr. Coulman will be an Assistant Professor in the Plant Science Department teaching genetics, forage crops, plant breeding and conducting research in forage crops.

MARCEL COUTURE is the Assistant Director of the Diploma Program and will lecture in agricultural economics. Mr. Couture is a Mac Diploma and B.Sc. grad, with an M.Sc. in Extension Education and Agricultural Economics from Guelph. He has previously worked with D.H.A.S. and with Canfarm.

LYNN FORGRAVE, Director of Farm Practice with the new Diploma Program, is a graduate of Bishop's University and has his M.Sc. in animal reproduction from Macdonald College. His previous position was General

Manager of the Embryo Transfer Unit at the College.

HENRY GARINO will teach livestock production courses (nutrition, disease control, beef and poultry production) to the Diploma students. He has his M.Sc. from Macdonald College in animal nutrition and for the last three years has worked as Farm Division Manager for Terfloth and Kennedy Ltd.

DONALD GRAHAM, a Mac grad with a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture from Harvard, will be an Assistant Professor in the Department of Renewable Resources. He will work part-time at the College teaching special topics in landscape, as well as with a landscape architecture firm in Ottawa.

PAUL MARTIN will join the faculty as an Assistant Professor in Animal Science, teaching animal pathology, mammalian physiology, and endocrinology. Dr. Martin, who is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Illinois, will also help with the maintaining of herd health at the College Farm.

RAYMOND MARTIN, a graduate of the University of Quebec, is at present completing his M.Sc. at Macdonald College. He will work with the Plant Science Department, lecturing to the Diploma students in agronomy courses.

WILLIAM YULE joins the Department of Entomology as an Associate Professor to teach Economic Entomology and Pest Insects. Dr. Yule has a Ph.D. degree from Nottingham, England, and has previously worked in Ottawa with the Chemical Control Research Institute of the Canadian Forestry Service.

Resignations

ROBERT D. BAKER was, for several years, a Professor of Animal Science and Director of the Embryo Transfer Unit at the College. Dr. Baker has resigned to work with Auld Croft Farms, Limited, in Mississauga, Ontario.

Sabbaticals

ROGER BIDER, Wildlife Resources, is on leave from September 1, 1976 until the end of August, 1977. Although Dr. Bider laughingly remarked "I've gone hunting", his year will also be spent reading, writing scientific papers, and visiting graduates across the country in an attempt to evaluate the wildlife program at Macdonald to find out if some changes are needed to make it more meaningful for future needs. He will also visit the deserts of the southwest, from Texas to California, to see the recently developed set-up of parks and museums.

HAROLD KLINCK, Department of Plant Science, has returned from a year in Aberystwyth, Wales, at the Welsh Plant Breeding Station. His year was spent "recharging my batteries", also catching up on scientific reading and publishing scientific papers. Dr. Klinck spent some time visiting with research people in Britain and on the continent.

HELEN NEILSON has returned to her work in the School of Food Science. Professor Neilson travelled extensively in Europe, where she found rural France the most interesting — a part of the world which appeared very progressive.

BABY PIG RESEARCH

Watching the rough and tumble of newborn pigs may remind us of little boys scuffling in a playground. But to the piglets, the fighting during the first few hours after birth is anything but fun — it is an earnest battle to win the teat with the best milk supply and thereby establish the best position in a nursing order which will be maintained until weaning. (See Macdonald Journal, September, 1974.)

One of the baby pig's best weapons is his needle teeth. Bites inflicted during fighting may actually cause cuts to either littermates or the sow's udder and, because of the ever present danger of infection, it has become routine practice for farmers to cut out the needle teeth shortly after birth. In reality, though, because of factors such as middle of the night births or overly busy schedules, the farmer might not clip the teeth until the pigs have fought for five or six hours, and in these first few hours the fighting is toughest. It became important to study the whole question of advantages and disadvantages of removing needle teeth and whether they have any effect on winning or losing fights.

Professor Tom Hartsock of the Animal Science Department designed experiments for his students to carry out in the swine production course. The needle teeth of every other pig born in a litter were clipped and fight behaviour was observed for eight hours. Although the results showed that there were no differences in behaviour, it must be noted that these experiments were carried out largely by untrained student observers.

In further experiments, whole litters with needle teeth clipped at birth were compared to litters with teeth left in for

eight hours after the birth of the last pig. The study showed that the pigs established their hierarchy in the same way and that after 21 days there was no significant difference in weight gain or mortality between litters.

In the future, Dr. Hartsock will study the possibility of giving the weaker pigs in the litter a fighting chance by keeping the needle teeth of weaker, below-average weight pigs in the litter and clipping the teeth of the larger, above-average pigs. The research on needle teeth aims at finding the optimal balance between injury and fighting benefit.

Supported by funding from the Canada Department of Agriculture, Macdonald College can continue research on behaviour studies in baby pigs and conduct studies on management procedures which will reduce pig mortality during the first weeks after birth.

FINANCIAL AID FOR STUDENTS AT MAC — AN UPDATE

A variety of scholarships, bursaries, prizes, and loans are available to students in the Faculty of Agriculture and School of Food Science at the Macdonald Campus. These are intended to recognize academic accomplishment or to provide financial assistance to deserving students pursuing post-high school education.



Scholarships

Thanks to the Macdonald Branch of the McGill Graduates' Society we have eight \$1,000 scholarships for new students entering the degree programs, and two \$500 scholarships for students entering the Diploma in Agriculture program. These scholarships recognize academic excellence.

Among other scholarships available are the Eliza M. Jones Scholarships of \$500 each, the Ralston Purina Scholarship of \$650, and the Hubbard Farms Scholarships of \$750 for ongoing students.

Bursaries

Students at Macdonald College are eligible to apply for bursaries from the Quebec Ministry of Education. The Stewart Brown Bursaries have recently been established by generous donation from Mr. Stewart Brown; these bursaries are intended for Canadian or landed immigrant students who show sincerity of purpose in agriculture and require financial help to study. Available to new students entering the College who may not have grades high enough to qualify for an entrance scholarship and to students who have completed one or more years in their option, they may range from \$450 to \$1,500, depending on need.

(Continued on page 16)

The Family

Farm

Published in the interests
of the farmers of the province
by the Quebec Department of
Agriculture.

FIRST REPORT FROM THE MEDIATOR

by **Bertrand Pelletier,**
Complaints Mediator
Quebec Department of Agriculture

In September 1974, the Farm Buildings and Machinery Service of the Quebec Department of Agriculture announced the creation of a new post, namely that of mediator for farm machinery complaints.

The aim of the program was to enable the farmer who believed he had been wronged at time of purchase or repair of his farm machinery or who suffered undue delay in obtaining spare parts to have recourse to the mediator of the Department of Agriculture who would intervene on his behalf for a satisfactory settlement.

At the close of the program's second year of operation, it is felt that in strengthening relations among the farmer, dealer and supplier, the mediator has improved service at all levels of the marketing of farm machinery. It has been proved that between the theory of a service policy and actual practice, there exists a fairly wide gap requiring mediation in order to ensure improved efficiency for the farmer. Therefore, during the past two years, special programs have taken shape to help the farmer benefit by necessary protection when using his farm machinery.

Following the decision of the mediator, dealers were supported in their efforts for improved

service to farmers. They noticed better service on the part of distributors and their staff. By and large, they supported the mediator, thereby permitting several cases to be settled. Parts were found in a minimum of time and results were appreciated by farmers.

Letters received have indicated the great importance of mediation at the production and economic levels of the enterprises involved.

During the first year, 362 complaints were registered as valid by the mediator. Of these 43 per cent concerned parts; 25 per cent repairs; 18 per cent miscellaneous cases; 8 per cent purchases; 6 per cent warranties.

Parts

It is interesting to note that out of 155 complaints concerning a shortage of parts or a delay in obtaining them, 26 per cent are attributed to the dealer and 74 per cent to the supplier or distributor. In the first case, there is a lack of information, supervision, or communication; in the second case, the parts are not available at the usual central warehouse and the time required to obtain them from other warehouses is too long to meet the needs of the farmer.

Complaints relating to parts are known to have been settled by applying pressure on the distributors or by contacting other dealers or suppliers in order

to locate the part or its equivalent needed to help out the farmer.

Repairs

As regards repairs, it has been found in certain circles that machinery bought in the past few years is more complex, its design has been changed and consequently buyers are experiencing more difficulty in obtaining good servicing. It should also be noted that there is an excessive number of requests for repairs during busy farming periods. Several of these repairs could easily be made at other times when the farmer and dealer are more free. This would leave only unexpected repairs for busy seasons such as seeding and harvesting and would result in better service to handle machinery breakdowns or any related difficulties.

Miscellaneous Cases

The "miscellaneous" section is for all kinds of complaints indirectly related to farm machinery, e.g., late deliveries, transport costs, price checking, etc.

Purchases

These complaints deal with purchases that for one reason or another are unsatisfactory, e.g., purchases from a generally unknown dealer or of used machinery without a written warranty, ambiguous contracts, undelivered attachable parts, etc.

Warranty

Under this section come all complaints referring to machinery warranties independent of the date of purchase. However, the mediator cannot be expected to settle all problems and cases submitted to him.

It must be realized that he receives these complaints only after the farm producer has done his best to settle the grievance on his own. The mediator's work is limited to finding regular means of obtaining justice for the farmer and to negotiating with the consent and good will of the parties involved. As the mediator does not have any judicial authority, the complainant may always resort to the courts if he feels that such action would be to his advantage.

In the farm machinery industry the mediator is accepted as protector of the farmer's rights and it should be added that he is recognized by all the parties with whom he keeps in constant touch.

As long as this continues we have no cause to want to follow the example of other provinces which have had to resort to legislation to ensure the same protection.

The mediator is also a member of the Advisory Committee on Farm Machinery whose task is to ensure uniformity of thought and action in all sectors of farm machinery marketing. He is therefore

up-to-date on program developments and policy changes and may count on the full support of the committee in carrying out his duties.

During the past two years there has been a marked improvement in the handling

of farm machinery and we can expect still better service on both sides for the benefit of the farmer.

It cannot be emphasized strongly enough that when purchasing his machinery the buyer should consider very carefully not only what he buys but also where he buys it.

THE RAISING OF GAME FOWL FOR ORGANIZED SHOOTING OFFERS SOME INTERESTING PROSPECTS

by Zachée Roy, Agronomist,
Special Program Division,
Department of Agriculture,
Quebec

Introduction

Game fowl hunting, which is part of the Recreation and Farm Vacation (agro-tourism) program, offers the greatest potential for development.

It stems from a request on the part of hunters who are no longer able to find an abundant quantity of wild game in our forests and who would like to try out their skill on farms where shooting is organized and success in their favourite sport more probable.

This also offers producers of game fowl the possibility of selling their birds to restaurants, hotels, and private individuals in order to satisfy the increasing demand of gourmets for pheasant, quail, bred partridge, and others.

Because of this potential and the fact that this kind of activity

is a good source of supplementary income for farmers in marginal areas of Quebec, the Department of Agriculture intends to promote a rational development of this type of enterprise and related hunting activities.

Choice of breeds

Various legally approved breeds of game fowl may be raised for organized hunting, the most popular being **pheasant**. It is the most common game bird offering the greatest marketing possibilities as regards both hunting and human consumption. This type of raising is already relatively well known in our province.

Next comes **quail** which after a recent introduction in Quebec has already experienced considerable popularity in the metropolitan area. The varieties raised are mainly those whose meat and eggs are used for human consumption. However, certain breeds such as Bob White are well suited for hunting purposes.

A species of game fowl still virtually unknown is the "**chukar**" **partridge used for breeding purposes**. This bird, which is raised extensively in the United States, deserves to be better known. In our opinion it is an intermediary between pheasant and quail. Being a bird more nervous than the pheasant, the chukar partridge offers good hunting possibilities and, because it is so tasty, it is most suitable for human consumption. However, it is not as prolific as quail.

Lastly, there is the **wild turkey** which, because of breeding difficulties, cannot be the subject of much promotion.

How to start out in this type of enterprise

As already mentioned, raisers of game fowl for organized hunting provide stock for game farms and make sales for human consumption. It is therefore important for anyone starting out in this type of raising to study closely the possibilities of these two outlets, keeping in mind his resources and the location of his enterprise.

First of all it is recommended that the prospective raiser inform himself and visit other raisers in the field. He would probably profit greatly from a training session in one of the enterprises. Next, careful selection of breeding stock is an important basic step. A small enterprise would

easily begin with a small incubator (50-100 eggs). As operations expand, the raiser should transact business with a better-equipped hatchery.

The management of the raising of game fowl is especially difficult because the temperament of these virtually undomesticated, nervous birds, requires special care and specific techniques, e.g., to combat frequent cannibalism.

Choice of sale

This type of enterprise, like game farms, must be located in isolated sites, far from noise and major highways and shielded from strong winds by wooded areas (preferably fir or spruce trees).

It is recommended that the aviary which makes up the central breeding quarters be situated in an area cleared of excessive vegetation.

A site within a radius of 40 to 60 miles from major urban centres is more likely to attract hunters than one located at a greater distance. The same applies to the selling of birds for human consumption.

Financial and technical aid available

As this is a relatively new field, the Department of Agriculture is preparing technical advisers to meet any eventual need.

A few publications are already offered regarding the raising of pheasants. As for quail and chukar partridge, all the documentation available at present is in English. A slide presentation and a film are being completed on the subject.

In its amended regulations the Farm Credit Bureau has provided for financial aid for the organization, installation, and operation of this type of enterprise. The Act to Promote Credit to Farm Producers and the Farm Improvement Act (F. I. A.) administered by Banks and Credit Unions provide for loans to eligible producers.

Charlevoix County benefits by special financial and technical aid to promote the development of such an enterprise (maximum grant: \$2,000).

Conclusion

The raising of game fowl for organized shooting offers the producer real opportunities for a sizeable supplementary income and, in certain cases, allows him to specialize in a type of enterprise which has a very promising future in Quebec.

THE FUTURE OF THE YOGURT INDUSTRY IN QUEBEC

by Real Piguette,
Agronomist,
Marketing Division,
Quebec Department of Agriculture

The expansion of the Quebec yogurt industry is in full swing. During the past 10 years it has increased considerably.

What is yogurt? It is a food product prepared with partially skimmed milk thickened by fermentation through a lactic culture which, at the right temperature, transforms the lactose or milk sugar into lactic acid. When the desired level of acidity is obtained, the product is cooled and kept refrigerated to check the action of the lactic culture and allow for longer conservation.

Yogurt has been on the Canadian market since 1932. It has been more popular in Quebec than in the other provinces, even though it has taken several years to become a regular item on the shopper's food list. In 1962, 30 years after its introduction, only 115,000 gallons of yogurt were consumed in the province of Quebec. This was a very small quantity, representing at the time an annual consumption of less than four ounces per person.

Today, however, the situation has changed quite noticeably, with Quebec alone producing about two million gallons. It is

difficult at present to estimate exactly the per capita consumption in the province as part of the yogurt produced locally is sold to other provinces. Moreover, some of the yogurt sold in Quebec is imported from Ontario. Quebec customers are the biggest consumers of yogurt among Canadians who generally use an average of 1.5 pounds per year.

The following table shows the rapid increase in the production of yogurt in Canada, Quebec and the other provinces. Quebec is by far the greatest producer, with its yogurt sold in most of the other provinces, including centres as far as Victoria, B.C.

YOGURT PRODUCTION
(gallons)

YEAR	TOTAL FOR CANADA	QUEBEC	ONTARIO	OTHER PROVINCES
1961.....	164,872	108,874	42,691	13,307
1964.....	348,063	264,858	55,237	27,968
1967.....	607,234	425,347	102,822	79,065
1971.....	2,289,994	1,274,686	634,947	380,361
1975*.....	3,550,000	1,900,000	810,000	840,000

*Official statistics for the first nine months and estimates for the balance of the year.

The following are some of the various reasons for the rapid increase in yogurt consumption since the early sixties.

Introduction on the market of Swiss-spun yogurt

Before 1964, there was only one method of making yogurt which consisted in letting the milk ferment in individual containers, resulting in a gelatine consistency, hence the name "set-style" yogurt.

The new method, developed in Switzerland and introduced in Canada in 1964, consists in allowing the milk to ferment in a basin before adding the fruits and flavours and pouring it into containers.

This breaks its firm consistency and results in a "spun" yogurt which is the favourite of a great number of consumers.

Vast choice of fruits and flavours

Strawberry and raspberry yogurts are the most popular, followed by peach, pineapple, blueberry, cherry and plain yogurts sold in equal quantities. Apple, orange, coffee, and vanilla yogurts form a third group intended to satisfy certain consumers.

Concern for buying a health food

Yogurt contains all the nutritional elements found in food but has less fat.

Quality of products offered

The popularity of convenience foods, coupled with the introduction of the six-ounce size, has increased the use of this product in educational institutions, hospitals, and cafeterias, and the economy 16-and 32-ounce sizes

have made it more convenient for large families. However, hotels and restaurants are still not adequately supplied.

The particular sour taste of yogurt, enhanced by adding fresh fruits, has made it a popular food.

Promotion

During the past few years, several producers of yogurt have carried on an intensive promotion campaign and, just recently, the Department of Agriculture, through its Marketing Division, has co-operated with two producers in the province to promote Quebec yogurt on the Toronto market.

Just 10 years ago, there were 25 yogurt producers in the province. Today, three producers in Quebec and one in Ontario control almost all the provincial market, even though there are about 10 other suppliers who produce limited quantities for local markets.

The yogurt industry is far from having fully exploited its marketing potential if we consider that on the average the Quebec family consumes the equivalent of only 20 six-ounce containers per year. Moreover, a study made in 1974 shows that a large portion of the population of this province has never brought yogurt and therefore may be regarded as prospective consumers. Finally, the use of yogurt in certain European countries is greater than in Quebec. All this leads us to believe that the yogurt industry has a long way to go before the market is saturated and thus we can look with optimism to its future.

(Continued from page 11.)

Several other bursaries and prizes have values ranging from \$100 to \$500. With regard to scholarships and bursaries, winners are selected by the Scholarships Committee at Macdonald College.

Loans

In addition to the loans which may be obtained from the Ministry of Education, there are two small loan funds for students in financial need. One fund exists through the generosity of the Kiwanis Club of Montreal; the other was set up by the Macdonald Branch of the McGill Graduates' Society. Loans from these two sources bear interest of 4½ per cent per annum; the interest rate is low enough that it does not create much of an increased burden but does help to some extent to compensate for inflation. It also allows a little more money to exist in the loan fund toward the future when more money will be needed to meet students' financial needs. Students are encouraged to start paying back in the summers between academic years in order to establish their credit rating and to reduce their interest charges and they are expected to complete the paying back of loans in the first year or two after graduation. These loans provide a very good democratic source of support to students; as the persons borrowing the money repay it after graduation, the loan fund continues to exist and to help future students in the time of their greatest need.

Students will find a more complete list of scholarships and bursaries in the Macdonald College calendar and any student requiring financial assistance is invited to write to the Registrar, Macdonald College, P.Q. HOA ICO.

McLENNAN TRAVELLING LIBRARIES — NEW ROUTES

Miss K. Clynes, Director, announces that the Libraries will stop at schools in Cookshire, Bury, and Sawyerville in the coming year. Following is the schedule of the new Bookmobile route:

BURY — Pope Memorial School

Wednesday, October 6, morning
Wednesday, January 12, morning
Wednesday, March 16, morning
Wednesday, May 11, morning

SAWYERVILLE — Sawyerville Elementary School

Wednesday, October 6, afternoon
Wednesday, January 12, afternoon
Wednesday, March 16, afternoon
Wednesday, May 11, afternoon

COOKSHIRE — Cookshire Elementary School

Thursday, October 7, morning
Thursday, January 13, morning
Thursday, March 17, morning
Thursday, May 12, morning

At these stops, classroom libraries will be chosen — each child will select one book, e.g., 30 children, 30 books. These books will be circulated within the class and may be kept until the next visit, free of charge. If response from the children is enthusiastic, they can, in addition, become private members at one dollar per year and select six books each call and eight for the summer. Adults, also, are invited to come to the above schools to borrow books from the adult selection in the Bookmobile.

Since the above was written, we found out that the Travelling Libraries celebrated their 75th Anniversary in September. Congratulations! McGill University is marking the occasion with a special additional book-fund allocation of \$7,500. Happy that the University has been able to make this gesture, Miss Clynes is hoping that McGill's lead will encourage Anniversary gifts large or small from members of the community at large.

QWI

Keeper of the Purse

(Interview with Mrs. Doris Cascadden, Provincial Treasurer, QWI. Questions were asked for the Journal by Hazel Clarke and will appear in italics.)

Before we discuss your position as Treasurer, would you tell us which branch you belong to and some of the positions you have held in it?

Mrs. Cascadden: I am a member of the Lennoxville branch in Sherbrooke County and I have been Branch Secretary, Treasurer, Convener of Citizenship, 1st and 2nd Vice-President, and President. At the County level, I have been Treasurer, Convener of Education, Vice-President, and President.

Which one did you prefer?

Mrs. Cascadden: Quite frankly, being Treasurer. I am more at home working with figures than anything else.

The Treasurer's position is, I think, demanding and specialized. Am I correct in assuming that you have background knowledge in this particular field?

Mrs. Cascadden: Yes, I have always worked on books at the office. I think that you have to have some knowledge of book-keeping before you step into a position such as Provincial Treasurer.

How long have you been Provincial Treasurer?

Mrs. Cascadden: I was first nominated as Treasurer in 1964 and served two terms until 1968. At that time our term of office was two years and you could serve a further term of two years. Then

I was asked to go back as Provincial Treasurer in September 1969 to finish out the term of the late Mrs. V. R. Beattie who had been appointed to fill a vacancy as Provincial Vice-President, and I have been Treasurer ever since. Now, under our new bylaws, the Provincial Treasurer, as well as the Provincial Secretary, is an appointed position.

Again, I am sure you approve because, as you say, it needs experience in bookkeeping.

Mrs. Cascadden: Yes. In fact, that was one of the reasons it was changed. If the Executive appoint the Treasurer, they can interview the prospective appointee and will know that she has had the necessary experience in book-keeping for the position.

For what reasons are the various monies raised or collected at branch level?

Mrs. Cascadden: First, there are the fees, which cover our fees to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada and to the Associated Country Women of the World, plus our provincial expenses. Next is the Travelling Fund which covers the expenses of our delegate to the ACWW Triennial Conference and the expenses of our Junior Director to the FWIC Conventions and the annual FWIC Board Meetings. Then there is the Pooling of Fares Fund. Each branch is assessed on a per capita basis and from this Fund the travelling expenses of one delegate per branch to Convention is returned to the branch treasury. Thus the branches nearer to Montreal are helping the branches further afield such as in Matagami and Grosse Isle. Each branch is also asked to support the QWI Service Fund.

There is no specified amount, only a suggestion of \$1.00 per member, but this is a voluntary contribution.

Another fund that we carry for the ACWW is Pennies for Friendship. The branches are asked to take up a collection or raise this money in some way in order to make a donation which is sent to ACWW to run their office. At the moment, the other project for ACWW is the Nutrition Education Trust Fund. A suggestion was made at our Convention two years ago that QWI members grow extra vegetables and, through their sale, start a fund to help famine-stricken countries. This was agreed to as a project and when ACWW was approached as to how it could best be distributed, they suggested it be through their Nutrition Education Fund. From this Fund a person in an underdeveloped country is trained and then she in turn passes on her information to others. In that way the money is used to help people have a better life.

So for some of the money (fees) you dig into your own pockets; some you're going to raise through bake sales, plant sales, catering and so on. Is there any reason why any one cannot afford to belong to WI?

Mrs. Cascadden: I would not think so. Of course everything is going up. Two years ago we had to increase our fees for the simple reason that our fees to FWIC had been doubled. Last year we had to raise the assessment for the Pooling of Fares Fund because of the increase in travelling expenses. Actually the only "musts" for the branches are the fees, Travelling Fund, and Pooling of

Fares Fund; all other funds are on a voluntary basis. Of course we are sometimes asked for "extras" just as this past year we've been asked to give an extra donation to the Hoodless Home Fund, which is a FWIC project to repair and refurbish the Hoodless Home.

How is the money sent on to you?

Mrs. Cascadden: Everything is supposed to come to me from the County Treasurers — Branch Treasurer to County Treasurer to Provincial Treasurer, but sometimes contributions to special funds do come to me directly from the Branch Treasurer. When a branch wishes to order Motto Pins, seals, etc., they should write directly to me.

The monies that you receive are in your divided pie (see illustration). Could you explain this?

Mrs. Cascadden: This "divided pie" illustrates how the fee of \$1.25 per member that we receive is spent. Of course, some of our expenses may vary somewhat from year to year. There's 50 cents immediately for Federated fees, then our donation to the Peace

Garden, and our subscription to the Federated News, which the provincial funds pay so that every branch gets a copy. That comes to just a little under 55 cents that we send to FWIC. Next are our fees to ACWW, our donation as a provincial unit to Pennies for Friendship, and a donation towards the expenses of our ACWW Area Vice-President. That amounts to a little less than four cents. So already we have spent just about 58½ cents. The remaining 66½ cents is for our running expenses, such as the expenses of Convention and the Semi-Annual Board Meeting, auditing and expenses of the Treasurer, and the miscellaneous expenses of the Executive and Conveners. We receive a government grant that covers the salary of our part-time Secretary and office expenses.

The Quebec Service Fund was started in 1941 as a special war effort and was known as the Self Denial Fund. Members raised over \$1,000 the first year which went to buy two electrically heated food wagon units for use at military hospitals. After the war the QWI members decided to continue on with this fund on a voluntary basis and it was to be

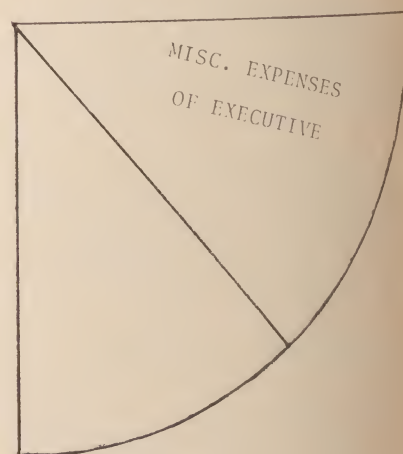
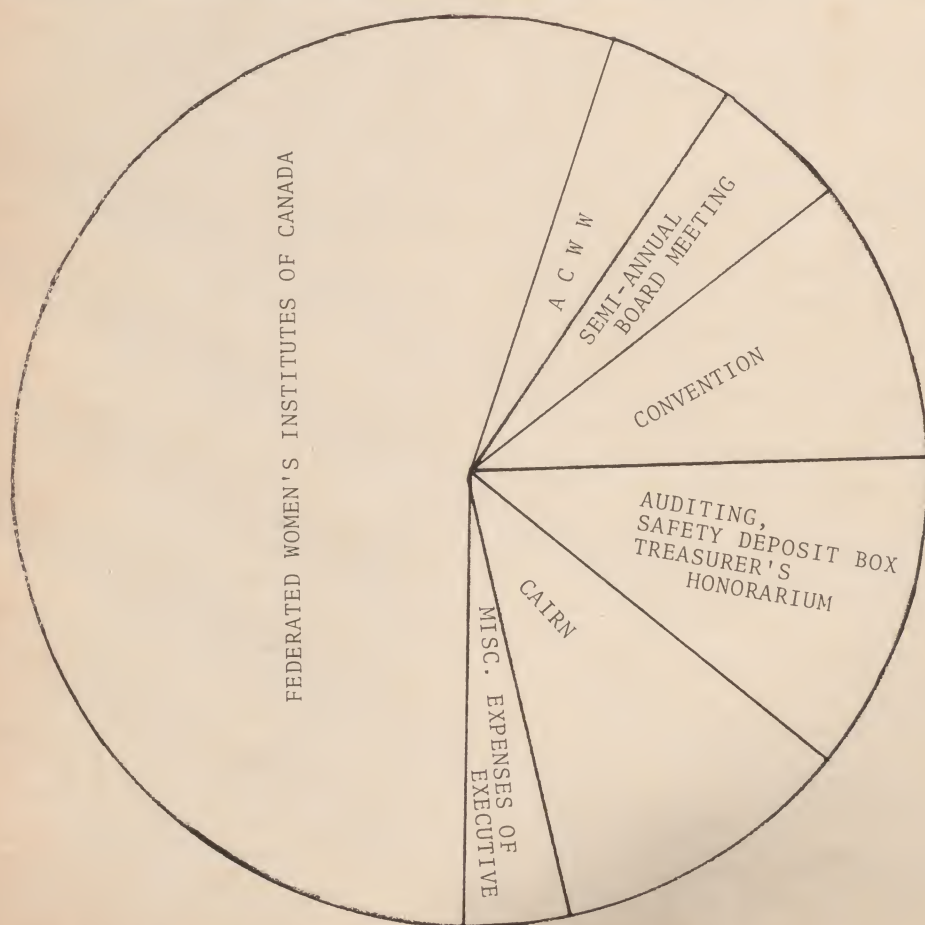
known as the Service Fund, and that's what we use for ourselves. Any prizes that we give at the provincial level for different competitions are taken from that fund. We also run our members' conferences from it. This fund helps us tremendously and is, I think, unique.

What are some of your other responsibilities?

Mrs. Cascadden: I acknowledge all cheques and send out receipts. There is considerable correspondence with regard to monies I receive, Life Memberships, and the cost of pins. I try to attend every Executive meeting, the Semi-Annual and Annual Convention, and look after sending out Life Memberships, and filling requests for motto pins.

Is there something that the Branches and/or Counties could do — should possibly be reminded to do — to make your life easier?

Mrs. Cascadden: Yes, always give a complete return address, including the postal code. Also, don't sign the letter as Mary Doe without giving a further hint as to whether it's Mrs. John



Doe or Mrs. Mike Doe. It would certainly make it easier and save checking addresses if every secretary or treasurer who had occasion to write to me would keep this in mind.

We try to make all Report forms

that have to be filled in and returned as clear and concise as possible. As an example, the County Treasurer's Report form should cover only the fees, etc., and such monies as they are sending in for other Funds and should not include any amount that was sent in during the year. If the total amount shown does not agree with the attached cheque then it means checking through the year's contributions to arrive at the correct amount to be entered.

Are you interested in the monies collected that you never see?

Mrs. Cascadden: Yes, we do ask the Branch Treasurers to fill in a supplemental list that covers what they do on the local level. We have given them some guide lines to go by: support for local schools, hospitals, homes, playgrounds, school equipment, and hot lunch funds. We ask them to report these to give us some idea of what they are doing in the community. It is wonderful to see how well local projects are supported.

Could you pass on any hints to Treasurers at the Branch and County level that might make their job easier?

Mrs. Cascadden: Keep an accurate account of all monies received and disbursed, with some detail. This helps if the occasion arises that you have to check back later. Have receipts to cover all expenditures over 50 cents. Actually, it is much better to have receipts for all expenditures. It helps the auditor and shows good bookkeeping.

Are you audited at the Branch level?

Mrs. Cascadden: Yes, but the books don't have to be audited by a chartered accountant — any WI member or person conversant with keeping books can do it. It is only at provincial level that it has to be a chartered accountant.

How much of your time does all this consume?

Mrs. Cascadden: From the end of March till after Convention is a very busy time but ordinarily I would say I put in a couple of hours most Sunday afternoons to keep the books up-to-date. It does seem that there is always a cheque to issue or a letter to write or some pins to send out. Sometimes my correspondence does get behind but the book-keeping must take precedence and I hope correspondents understand if their letters are not answered on time.

And, of course, you are run off your feet here at Convention and I do thank you on behalf of your members for taking time from your Executive duties to talk with me. We've talked about Mrs. Cascadden, the Provincial Treasurer of QWI and her duties. Could we end on a different note by asking what you enjoy doing when not working on the books at the office and for QWI?

Mrs. Cascadden: In the summer I garden a little. We have a very small garden that sometimes seems to require all our attention but it's worth it to have fresh vegetables in season. In the winter, I usually have some handicraft on the go — knitting, making stuffed toys, etc., etc. And every day is complete if I can curl up with a book and read a bit before bedtime.

Tweedsmuir Contest

The quilt display at the P.E.I. Conference last June was a beautiful one with quilts from 9 of the 10 provinces. The first prize winner was from the Pittsburgh W.I. in Ontario and was the "Indian Trails" pattern in blue and gold. Maple leaves, in outline, were quilted along the gold borders in blue thread, and each corner had the Ontario WI pin pattern quilted across it. Second prize went to the Elora WI, also in Ontario.

This pattern was the "Double Wedding Ring" in multicolours on white. Third prize was won by the Irishtown WI of P.E.I. for a beautiful "Log Cabin" quilt.

Although QWI didn't place with their "Rail Fence" quilt, it was much admired and added to the beautiful display.

Another quilt that created much interest was a "Friendship" one displayed by a P.E.I. WI member. She has many letter friends around the world. To each letter friend she sends a block depicting a scene or quote from the Bible. This is done in liquid embroidery. Her letter friends send her one in return and she sews these together and makes quilts from them. Each block, besides the illustration and Bible reference, has the friend's name, birth and anniversary dates. A truly wonderful friendship memento.

The Drama prize was awarded to the Edmonton WI in Alberta. The play was based on an immigrant family from central Europe settling in Canada and the conflict between the "old country" ways of the older members and the new ideas of the younger members. A local drama group read and acted out the play on one of the evenings and it was much enjoyed by all. There are no other prizes given in this contest but Honourable Mentions are given to deserving ones and we were happy to learn that Mrs. Gladys Woolley of the Hemmingford WI received one for her play.

The History prize went to the Dougald WI of Springfield, Manitoba. Due to the high costs of printing, etc., the History contest is being reviewed. When the committee has had time to study the subject and make a few rules, they will let us know in what form this contest will be in this next three-year period.

The gifts that the QWI sent for the sale table were much appreciated. The ladies looking after the sales table told me that the standard of workmanship was outstanding and in some cases was really too good for the money charged. Gifts were supposed to be worth from \$1.00 to \$3.00, and some of the pillowcases had crocheted edgings as well as beautiful embroidery on them. I asked for hints to help us another year and some of the suggestions were:

- 1) Label each article with the name of the Branch and the Province. A lot of articles had the Branch name only and as there are so many in Canada one didn't know where some of them were.
- 2) Put the price on or leave a space on the label with the name.
- 3) Homemade articles sell best.
- 4) Article special to our area seem to sell best. People are looking for souvenirs, i.e. our maple products go well as in some parts of Canada it is hard to get.

The sales table realized about \$2,150 and thanks go to all who contributed.

Mrs. James Robertson
Hemmingford, P.Q.

Dear WI Members,

One of our publicity conveners stated in her report "August found the branches in *Missisquoi* County enjoying a relaxing time." This is fitting and true of most branches in general. Both *Cowansville* and *Fordyce* enjoyed picnics. *Cowansville* at a member's home and *Fordyce* at a member's cottage on Brome Lake. *Stanstead North* held a picnic at Baldwin's Mills on Lake Lyster. The three branches of *Shefford County* — *Granby West*, *Waterloo-Warden*, and

Granby Hill celebrated jointly. *Jerusalem-Bethany* branch met at the Carillon picnic grounds for lunch. The program for *Melbourne Ridge* for August was a picnic—each member was to bring a friend.

Some important sites were visited, social evenings held, and there were some parties. To celebrate their 55th Anniversary, *Stanbridge East* visited St. Alban's Vermont Museum. *Dunham* held a social evening with members of other branches as invited guests. Mrs. Corry showed slides of her antique china collection. Mr. Harvey described the making of pottery in his native home, England. *Stanstead North* entertained members of the *Hatley* and *Hatley Centre* branches at the historic Red Brick School on Route 143.

An interesting Grandmother's party was held in *Aylmer East* in August at the home of Mrs. Hood. Lunch was served by the Zion United Church Ladies on the beautiful lawn overlooking the Ottawa River. The roll call was "how to postpone old age". One member replied that on getting up each morning she would say, "something good is going to happen today", and it usually did. Games and contests were enjoyed and prizes awarded to the grandmother who had (1) the most children, (2) the youngest grandchild, and (3) the grandchild living farthest from the Aylmer area. At a meeting of the *Jerusalem-Bethany* Institute, Isabelle Smith gave an interesting talk on her recent trip to England, Wales and France.

At *Melbourne Ridge*, a demonstration was given by Mrs. Barbara Richardson on Shrink Art.

Numerous donations have been reported: *Granby Hill* donated money to the local Calf Club, *Frontier* to the 4-H Club Achievement Day. *Beebe* to the local hospital, to the Church

Memorial Fund, to cubs, scouts, brownies and guides. The *Richmond Young Women* made a donation to the Students Loan Fund at the Richmond Regional High School. *Richmond Hill* raised money for the Betty Mason Memorial Fund.

Cleveland branch, Richmond County, reported a new member.

Two groups made plans to visit the Ottawa Fair on Ladies Day, August 24. *Frontier* and *Jerusalem-Bethany* branches. As I write this the fall fairs are in full swing and those of us who have had the privilege of helping brothers, husbands, daughters, and sons get ready for these important events have experienced something we don't forget. We read about the call of the sea and the call of the north, but there is a special fascination about fall fairs. They get in one's blood. So these weeks will be busy and exciting. It could be little brother, with tousled head and starry eyes, who has to leave home early with his very own calf, who needs our help. Or it might be big brother or Dad with a very special animal. They all have something in common, though. They are exhibiting at the County Fair. Mrs. Ivy Hatch from *Stanstead* wrote, "But now August, and then fall will be here, and there will be lots of action with Ayer's Cliff Fair." No doubt other counties share her sentiments.

I repeat two catchy mottoes: The time to be happy is now, and To have joy one must share it; Happiness was born a twin. The following quote caught my attention a short time ago. No wind blows in favour of the ship that has no port of destination.

Mrs. Gladys C. Nugent
QWI Publicity Convener

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